

**A&D Commission
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- Emergency Beacon Flashing Device – John Romano stated that he will approach the town to request funds for the purchase of these devices. He will update us at the next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS


- Program/Event Descriptions – Volunteers are needed to develop program descriptions for each of the Commissions programs. A list was made of those programs, which require descriptions to be completed. To date, only Souper Tuesday has been completed. These descriptions are needed to assist individuals who take over the operation of an event.
- Fashion Show – The annual Fashion Show, which coincides with Souper Tuesday, has been tentatively scheduled for Tuesday 25 October.
- Correspondence – Ed read a letter from State Representative Rob Heagney in which he stated he would support bill No. 6338, “An Act Concerning the Demand Response Program of Transportation for Elders and Persons With Disabilities”, when it comes before him in the House of Representatives.
- Ed thanked the Commission members for their efforts over this past year and wished everyone a safe summer.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business a motion was made and seconded to adjourn the meeting. The next meeting of the Aging and Disability Commission is scheduled for Tuesday 20 September 2005.

Respectfully submitted,

Moirá Wertheimer
Clerk


Edward J. LaMontagne
Chairman

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E. Souper Tuesday:

- Ed stated that he has appointed Grace Comeau to chair the Souper Tuesday event for 2005-06 and that she has agreed to do so.
- Grace stated that the following dates have been established for the Souper Tuesday event: October 25th, November 29th, February 28th and April 25th

F. Ways and Means:

- Ed stated that he has sent a letter to Fran Gauthier, of the Committee of Deacons for the First Church of Christ in Simsbury, requesting a donation for the Souper Tuesday event. This contact was made through Peg Bergethon.

G. Senior Center Report:

- Ricki Bergquist, Senior Center Director provided the commissioners with an update of Senior Center programs and activities, which have occurred over the past month and which are planned for the future.

H. Other:

- Ed stated that he attended the Simsbury Auxiliary of the Village and Second Chance Shop Reception on 20 May at Eno Memorial Hall. At that time a donation of \$70,000 was made to the Village by the Second Chance Shop.

OLD BUSINESS

- Music Program Discussion – Peg was unable to secure the community band for an event this year, but everyone agreed that this is a worthwhile event and should be attempted again next year.
- Senior Service Award – The award will be presented to Jack Bannan at the Board of Selectman meeting on Monday 27 June at 7:00pm. This presentation will be along with the Hometown Heroes. A copy of the plaque inscription was passed around. A reception will be held in the Blue Room at Eno immediately after the presentation.
- Picnic in the Park – The event is scheduled for Sunday 25 September from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Apple Barn. Discussion was held with regard to supplies, food, entertainment and posters.
- A&D Brochure – Commissioners were asked for suggestions to update our brochure. Carrie provided a draft of “people first” language for the brochure. Carrie also stated that she knows of a graphic artist who may be able to assist us with the cover.

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B. Aging:

1. UCONN Health Center sponsoring "Celebrate Aging" program. Brochure detailing program distributed. The director of program is invited to attend our September meeting.
2. Hartford Courant article (June 6, 2005) distributed focusing on the adult day care shortage facing elderly clients. Specifically, as demand grows for adult day care services, the centers are becoming scarcer.

C. Legislative:

Federal:

- The US House of Representatives has passed a \$284 billion highway and transit bill and the Senate passed its version of the bill, funded at \$295 billion. Both bills significantly increase funding for elderly and persons with disabilities.
- Discussion was held with regard to the new Medicare Part D plan which will be going into effect on January 1, 2006.

State:

- The state legislature is currently reviewing a bill titled, "AN ACT CONCERNING THE DEMAND RESPONSIVE PROGRAM OF TRANSPORTATION FOR ELDERS AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES." A special session will be conducted in late June to discuss this bill. Communication was made with State Representative Rob Heagney to voice our support of the bill.
- Lynn Veith distributed copies of the CANPFA Capitol Line newsletter. The newsletter is a trade organization for nursing professionals and described the various bills, which were legislated during this past session.

D. Housing:

- Ed distributed a news article from the June 6th edition of the Hartford Courant. The article described the shortage of Adult Centers around the state – despite a growing demand.
- Ed brought to the attention of the commissioner's a renters' rebate program for the elderly and people with disabilities. Ricki indicated that the town's Social Services Department is aware of this program and offers it to eligible town residents.

**TOWN OF SIMSBURY
AGING AND DISABILITY COMMISSION**

June 21, 2005

Meeting Minutes

Chairperson, Edward LaMontagne called the meeting to order in the Blue Room at Eno Memorial Hall, 754 Hopmeadow Street, Simsbury, Connecticut at 7:05 p.m.

Present: Ricki Bergquist (Staff Consultant), Grace Comeau, Gloria Knierim, Carrie Kramer, Ed LaMontagne, Charlotte Steptoe, Lynn Veith, and Moira Wertheimer.

Not Present: Peg Bergethon (excused), Kathy Fallon, Lorraine Piurowski, John Romano (Board of Selectmen liaison).

Public Audience: None.

Minutes Previous Meeting: Motion made and carried (Kathy Fallon/Lynn Veith), approving minutes from April 19, 2005.

REPORTS:

A. Disability:

1. Ed and John attended CT Real Choice Forum for cities and towns held 5/26/05 at Newington Senior Center. This forum is designed to inform towns regarding the most current best practices in full inclusion for people with disabilities. Among other things, the subject of "mapping" was discussed. Mapping looks at resources in a specified region and maps out where needs are. FAVARH is beginning to do needs assessments, and will begin with Canton.
The next forum will be held in Windham. In addition, at statewide conference, "Creating Inclusive Communities for Everyone," will be held September 16th at the Farmington Marriott.
2. Disability Advocacy Collaborative will hold a disability conference in 2006.
3. Please note that July 26th marks the anniversary for the ADA signing.
4. Charlotte spoke about accessible housing, and housing that can be built accessible ready.
5. Ed distributed National Council on Disability news article focusing on the failure of public transportation to meet the needs of disabled users.
6. Ed attended a transportation forum held in Groton.
7. Sen. Clinton (D-NY) proposed bill focusing on the prevention of unnecessary institutionalizations among older adults needing mental health services.